

REMARKS

Applicants, by the amendments presented above and the arguments presented below, have made a concerted effort to present claims which clearly define over the prior art of record, and thus to place this case in condition for allowance. Claims 1-9, 21-23, 27-32, 34-39 and 43-64 are currently pending. Claims 10-20, 24-26, 33 and 40-42 have previously been withdrawn from consideration and cancelled. Claims 6, 7, 9, 23, 50-52, 55-59 and 61-64 have been withdrawn from consideration herein.

Election/Restrictions

The Examiner is of the opinion that claims 62-64, which were newly submitted in the "*Amendment And Response To Office Action Dated December 16, 2005*", are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed and, because the invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits, the Examiner has withdrawn claims 62-64 from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. As such, Applicant has changed the identifier for claims 62-64 as being "Withdrawn".

The Examiner further noted the original election of species requirement made by Applicant in the "*Response To Restriction Requirement*" filed on September 23, 2004. In view thereof, and in view of the addition of new claims in the "*Amendment And Response To Office Action Dated December 16, 2005*", the Examiner has required Applicant to review all of the pending claims and to withdraw or cancel all claims which are not readable on the elected Group III (Figs. 7-9). In view thereof, Applicant has withdrawn claims 6, 7, 9, 23, 50-52, 55-59 and 61-64 from consideration herein. Applicant notes that each of these withdrawn claims is ultimately dependent on one of independent claims 1, 21 and 47, all of which

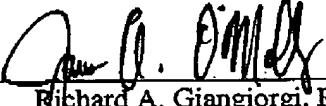
Applicant states are generic to the species of Group I (Figures 1-3, 22 and 23), Group II (Figures 4-6, 22 and 23), Group III (Figures 7-9), and Group IV (Figures 10-12, 22 and 23).

Applicant explicitly reserves the right to file divisional applications on the non-elected claims.

In view of the above Amendments and Remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims of the application are allowable over the rejections of the Examiner. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this Amendment, the Examiner is invited to contact one of the undersigned attorneys at (312) 704-1890.

Respectfully submitted,

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